



JAN H. GARDNER
Frederick County
Executive

HB 1420

Alcoholic Beverages – Modern Brewery License

County Position: SUPPORT

Date: February 27, 2017
Committee: Economic Matters

Frederick County Executive Jan Gardner requests a favorable report for **House Bill 1420** - “Alcoholic Beverages - Modern Brewery License.”

County Executive Jan Gardner strongly supports legislation aimed at modernizing and updating the COMAR for the craft brewery industry in Maryland. Executive Gardner has made creating economic opportunity a foundational aspect of her tenure as the first County Executive of Frederick County, and with the rapidly expanding craft brew industry in the County, Executive Gardner wants to encourage the Maryland General Assembly to address outdated policies and regulations that artificially strangle this sector.

House Bill 1420, sponsored by Delegate Charles Barkley of Montgomery County, is a measure strongly supported by the Brewers Association of Maryland. This bill will provide a level playing field for those brewers that operate on-premises production and sales facilities, ensuring that both public health and safety, as well as consumer choice are adequately addressed. Executive Gardner supports legislation and amendments that treat the entire industry fairly and equitably, but is opposed to any bill that would create individual exemptions or waivers unique to just one facility or producer.

Executive Gardner and her team closely coordinate with local craft brewers to maintain a local relationship geared towards keeping Frederick County producers on the cutting edge of this important economic engine. Flying Dog Brewery, Monocacy Brewing, Brewer’s Alley, Rockwell Brewing, Barley & Hops, Attaboy Brewery, Smoketown Brewery and Olde Mother Brewing Company are all examples of craft beer production facilities that are building, expanding, employing and satisfying consumer demand for these high-end products.

County Executive Gardner urges your favorable **SUPPORT** for House Bill 1420.